

Part B - 8

**LEAD AGENCY/BUREAU AND/OR SUBCOMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP
REPORT (Agencies with Lead Responsibilities Assigned under the new
Circular A-16 in Appendix E -**

<http://www.fgdc.gov/publications/a16final.html#appendix> (Please provide a separate report for each activity for which you have the lead)

1. Program/Activity Name: Ocean Depth (Bathymetry) Data
2. What are the specific federal programs this data supports?

NOAA/NOS Office of Coast Survey Nautical Charting Program

3. Uses of Data: How does your data benefit customers and support agency missions?

Provides bathymetric data for a variety of users beyond traditional nautical charting including coastal zone management, geological process analysis, and fisheries habitat characterization.

4. Charter/Plan: Do you have a current charter or plan for collection? If so - please describe (include how recently the charter/plan was implemented and whether it is in need of update).

A National Survey Plan was developed in 2000 and is currently under revision to update requirements.

5. Metadata Status: Is metadata discoverable and served through the NSDI Clearinghouse? What percentage of this theme's data has metadata and is in a Clearinghouse node?

Yes –100 percent.

6. Standards: What is the status of this theme's data, process, transfer, and classification standards?

Work continued on the Geospatial Data Accuracy Standards, Part 5 - Accuracy Standards for Hydrographic Surveys and Nautical Charts as well as coordination with the FGDC Elevation Subcommittee.

7. Progress: List FY 2003 activities/progress to date (quantify where possible).

Geospatial Data Accuracy Standards, Part 5 - Accuracy Standards for Hydrographic Surveys and Nautical Charts was approved by the FGDC Coordination Group on August 5, 2003.

8. Policy: Do you have a formal agency policy in place for full and open access or data sharing? Are you able to fulfill this policy and provide public access with your current agency financial resources as allocated or are you in pursuit of collaborative federal partnerships to support data access?

All NOAA bathymetric data has full and open access through our data distribution center at the National Geophysical Data Center in Boulder, Colorado.

9. Are there areas or issues regarding lead responsibilities for spatial data themes that require attention, or lessons-learned that you would like to share with others? Please describe.

There is a need to be able to simultaneously analyze depth data and elevation data along the coast. This is made difficult by the differing vertical datums used by each data type. A method must be designed to enable this analysis. NOAA has developed a prototype program called V-Datum that needs to be expanded in its applicability to the entire U.S. coastline.